



# HCCA

**Howard County Citizens Association**

*Since 1961... The Voice of the People of Howard County*

**From:** STUART KOHN <stukohn@verizon.net>

**Date:** May 20, 2025 at 10:00:19 PM EDT

**To:** apfo@howardcountymd.gov

**Subject: Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) APFO Testimony**

Dear APFO Committee Members,

The following is the HCCA APFO testimony. We kindly ask for your response regarding our questions below.

Good evening. I am Stu Kohn from Scaggsville representing the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA as its President.

We give the APFO Committee credit for the time and effort spent to make recommendations for attempting to improve life in our County. However, we are concerned if this Committee really cares about communication and interacting with the public? We ask because it seems that silence from you, not allowing any questions or comments at these hearings is the norm pertaining to this public meeting as was the last. Of the 96 comments received at the first public hearing, how many will be incorporated in your current or future recommendations?

I was a member of the previous APFO Committee. After 8 years the acronym of APFO should change to ALPO, A Lousy Public Ordinance. It will continue to remain "Lousy" because the measurements for protection of schools, roads and quality of life issues have not worked and require it to be much stricter. How will your current 10 recommendations better the situation? Will you have the courtesy to respond?

With your proposed school recommendations will we see a complete redistricting elimination or additional trailers? We believe no school capacity should exceed 100 percent for any tier, no additional trailers should exist for overflow and should be counted as overcapacity.

The level of service of roads should only pass at a service level higher than a "D" because of the volume of continued congested traffic and the proliferation of development. Will there be any recommendations by this Committee to the Council to

include Fire, Emergency Medical Services, the Police, the Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical System, Utilities, and Storm Water, etc. Will this committee make any recommendations to the County Council regarding any of these quality-of-life issues? If so when will the public be informed so we may provide any comments?

When we see road signs stating, "Stay alert traffic congestion next 3 miles" and schools with nearly 250 trailers we as you should have major concerns. Developers should not be permitted to get a free get out of jail card after four years ignoring schools declared overcapacity. We need to avoid the heartburn of redistricting. Furthermore, there should not be any housing exemptions for APFO.

We do not support eliminating the wait and having fees paid instead. Having higher fees closer to the actual cost of the impacts on development should happen without eliminating the wait of crowded school requirements to assist in their budget and planning.

We hope you will take the necessary action for APFO to once and for all really stand for an "Awesome" Public Facilities Ordinance which we all can be proud.

Thank you for at least listening as your silence to the public is not golden, but your actions will be pivotal to the future of our County.

Stu Kohn  
HCCA President